

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

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FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 8008 ACTION SECSTATE DTD 13 OCT 76.

QUOTE: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 8008

PASS COMMERCE FOR BOURDON (MARAD) AND UNDER SECRETARY;

LABOR FOR SEGALL, HOROWITZ, QUACKENBUSH, LINSENMAYER

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ILO, ELAB

SUBJECT: PRESIDENCY OF ILO MARITIME CONFERENCE

1. SUMMARY: HAREIDE OF NORWAY WAS UNANIMOUSLY ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE ILO MARITIME CONFERENCE THIS MORNING FOLLOWING WITHDRAWAL OF POLISH CANDIDATURE. POLISH DELEGATE NASZKOWSKI, IN BRIEF EXPLANATION OF WITHDRAWAL, OUTLINED DISCONTENT OF EE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES WITH THEIR EXCLUSION FROM HIGH-LEVEL ELECTIVE ILO POSTS. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING OPENING OF MARITIME CONFERENCE, GB CHAIRMAN HASSE (FRG) MENTIONED THAT THERE WERE TWO CANDIDATES FOR THE POSITION OF PRESIDENT. FOLLOWING SCENARIO DEVELOPED BY ILO SCRE-

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TARIAT, HE THEN INVITED NASZKOWSKI TO MAKE A STATEMENT PRIOR

TO FORMAL NOMINATIONS.

3. IN NASZKOWSKI'S STATEMENT OF WITHDRAWAL, HE MENTIONED THAT THE POLISH GOVERNMENT HAD NOMINATED HIM FOR THE PRESIDENCY BECAUSE OF POLAND'S POSITION IN WORLS SHIPPING AND BECAUSE OF THEIR ROLE IN SOLVING PROBLEMS OF SEAFARERS. HE STATED THAT THIS NOMINATION HAD BEEN ENDORSED BY THE OTHER EE COUNTRIES. THE EE COUNTRIES SUPPORTED HIS CANDIDACY BECAUSE IT UPHELD THE CONCEPT OF GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTIVE POSTS IN THE ILO. HE STATED THAT THERE WERE TWO SOCIAL SYSTEMS IN EUROPE AND THAT EE WANTED THE SAME RULES APPLIED TO THEM AS WERE APPLIED TO WE. THE NOMINATION OF COUNTRIES FROM ALL SOCIAL SYSTEMS TO ILO POSTS SHOULD BE ENDORSED AS IN KEEPING WITH THE CONCEPT OF GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION. HE NOTED THAT SINCE THE END OF WWII, THE PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE HAD COME FROM WE COUNTRIES. ONLY ONCE HAD A PRESIDENT COME FROM AN EE COUNTRY.

4. NASZKOWSKI NOTED THAT THERE WERE TWO EUROPEAN CANDIDATES AND THAT AGREEMENT COULDN'T BE REACHED BETWEEN THEM. AS FAR AS EE COUNTRIES WERE CONCERNED, IT WAS NOT A MATTER OF PERSONALITIES, BUT A QUESTION OF EQUAL REPRESENTATION WHICH HAD PROMPTED THEIR SEEKING THE POST. HE STATED THAT HE WAS WITHDRAWING, HOWEVER, IN A SPIRIT OF COOPERATION PROMPTED BY THE HELSINKI AGREEMENT, AND IN ORDER TO AVOID CONFRONTATION. IN WITHDRAWING HIS CANDIDATURE, HE EXPRESSED THE EE COUNTRIES' HOPE THAT THE PRINCIPLES OF GEOPGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION WOULD BE SUPPORTED AND THAT THE LEGITIMATE ASPIRATIONS OF EE COUNTRIES WOULD BE RESPECTED IN THE FUTURE. CATTO
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